

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY ARA/LA:WGBOWDLER:ARA/APU RCFELDER
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S/S-O: P. JOHNSON
ARA/APU:FVORTIZ

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TO USDEL RIYADH IMMEDIATE
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EXDIS TOSEC 331

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: REPLY TO LETTER FROM FOREIGN
MINISTER VIGNES (S/S NO.7503345)

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM ROGERS

FOREIGN MINISTER VIGNES WROTE YOU ON FEBRUARY 7 MAKING
REFERENCE TO THE NEED FOR ADJUSTMENTS AND CLARIFICATION
OF PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE ACT, AND STRONGLY URGING YOU TO
VISIT ARGENTINA, PREFERABLY IN MARCH.

I BELIEVE IT ADVISABLE TO RESPOND BY STRESSING THE
COMPLEXITIES OF THE TRADE ACT MATTER, AND OUR INTENTION TO
CONSULT WITH THE CONGRESS ON THE ACT. IT WOULD BE USEFUL
TO SUGGEST TO VIGNES MY UPCOMING TRIP TO BUENOS AIRES AS AN
OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS YOUR PROJECTED VISIT.

RECOMMENDATION: THAT YOU AUTHORIZE THE TRANSMISSION OF THE
FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER VIGNES:

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1. QUOTE. DEAR MR. MINISTER: I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR LETTER OF FEBRUARY 7 AND AMBASSADOR HILL'S REPORT OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH YOU REVIEWING THE DECISION OF YOUR GOVERNMENT TO POSTPONE THE BUENOS AIRES MEETING.

2. IN YOUR LETTER YOU SPOKE OF THE NEED FOR ADJUSTMENTS AND CLARIFICATION OF PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE ACT. IN THE STATEMENTS I MADE ON JANUARY 27 AND 28, COPIES OF WHICH AMBASSADOR HILL GAVE YOU, I NOTED THE COMPLEXITIES UNDER OUR CONSTITUTION IN THIS SENSITIVE FIELD. WE IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH SHALL BE CONSULTING WITH THE CONGRESS ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE TRADE ACT. I HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE CONGRESS WILL BE SYMPATHETIC TO OUR VIEWS. WHILE WE ARE DOING THIS, I WOULD HOPE THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO DISCUSS A RANGE OF ISSUES, INCLUDING TRADE.

3. I APPRECIATE THE CANDOR OF YOUR COMMENTS ABOUT MY TRIP TO SOUTH AMERICA. AS MY PLANS TAKE SHAPE, I WILL WRITE YOU ABOUT DATES. I HAVE ASKED BILL ROGERS TO DISCUSS THE TRIP WITH YOU WHEN HE VISITS BUENOS AIRES THE LATTER PART OF THIS MONTH. IN THE MEANTIME, I HAVE NOTED YOUR PREFERENCE FOR MARCH. YOU MAY BE SURE THAT BUENOS AIRES WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE FIRST STOP.

4. WITH WARMEST REGARDS TO YOU AND MRS. VIGNES IN WHICH MRS. KISSINGER JOINS. SINCERELY, HENRY A. KISSINGER.
UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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